

Sandy Post

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Same Old Refrain

Just like an old Army buddy who comes for a day and stays a week, getting rid of the Banfield HOV lanes may be a lot easier than getting them.

A tacit understanding presumably had been reached during the legislative session whereby rules on the lanes would be relaxed. Cars with two passengers would be permitted to use the lanes as well as taxis and motorcycles.

However, the Oregon Transportation Commission now apparently is having second thoughts about that sort of compromise. Fred Klaboe, chief of operations, instead wants greater efforts made toward increasing use of the lanes.

Besides, he told The Post last week that any change in the present plan "would require a rather substantial study of air quality in the corridor."

Which causes us to ask — again — why wasn't the same sort of study required when the HOV lanes first were installed? DEQ remained very silent, even mute, at that time. Now that the shoe is on the other foot, there is great concern.

The HOV lanes are not being used, they are downright unpopular with the great majority of commuters. Continued efforts to force them down commuter throats aren't likely to get anywhere.

What about Cloud-Seeding?

Both Washington and Oregon are laying the groundwork for cloud-seeding projects next year if the unprecedented drought continues.

Gov. Straub sought money for seeding here last year but the plan died in the Senate. In Washington State, however, \$125,000 was allocated for cloud-seeding and the chairman of the State Energy Committee says "it was money well spent."

Rep. King Lysen of Seattle said the snowpack in the Yakima and Cowlitz river basins was improved by 20 percent.

Here's where you get a difference of opinion. Some weather experts claim

the rain was coming anyhow and the cloud-seeding really had no effect. Others support Lysen's claim.

Still unanswered, of course, is what action might be taken by Idaho, Montana etc. If cloud-seeding does work and causes more than usual moisture to fall in Washington and Oregon, that means less in other states. Is it legal? The courts would have to answer that one.

Long-range weather forecasts are notoriously unreliable but they do predict less-than-normal rainfall for the Pacific Northwest this fall. If the drought does continue, cloud-seeding almost certainly will be attempted again.

A Growing Sport

Portland plays host to the "Soccer Bowl" Sunday when the champion of the North American Soccer League will be determined. A turn-away crowd is anticipated.

A lot of people don't realize how big soccer has become. Ten years ago there were an estimated 30,000 soccer players in the U.S. Today the figure is ten times as great.

Some experts say in another ten years, soccer will be the No. 1 spectator sport in the U.S., as it is worldwide. It's a fast game, easy to understand and further rapid growth is predictable.

Soccer is particularly big in

Cutting Off the Tax on Food

There'll be some changes made, so the song goes, in Washington's sales tax this November.

An initiative will be on the ballot to remove the sales tax from most food products. Public opinion polls indicate almost certain passage of the initiative along with a companion measure which will wipe out a just-instituted 2 cents-per-gallon gasoline tax.

California's sales tax, for instance, exempts most food, and agitation has continued for years over providing

Will There Always Be a GOP?

National publications are worrying about the demise of the Republican party, the Gallup poll shows membership sagging to the lowest point in 40 years.

Is the Republican party dying, if not already dead?

We don't think so. Not because of any particular virtue on the part of the GOP but rather because our system requires an opposition party. If it isn't the Republicans, it'll be someone else.

And despite their current lassitude, the GOP still offers the only real alternative to the Democratic party. It may be a long time before the Republicans elect another president

(because of Watergate) but they'll elect enough Congressmen and Senators to have a considerable voice in Washington.

Republicans have scored some notable victories in off-year elections (like Washington's 7th district where the GOP captured Brock Adams' seat). Furthermore, there are Republicans... like Tom McCall here in Oregon, Jim Thompson in Illinois, Barry Goldwater in Arizona who can beat most any Democrat in their home state.

We certainly don't see any quick comeback for the Republicans. But we think reports of their demise are greatly exaggerated.



letters to the editor

Krazy Days

To the Editor:

I would like to express my gratitude to the Sandy Senior Citizens, Kiwanis, to the business communities of Sandy and Gresham area merchants for their donations to the Krazy Days which was held Saturday, Aug. 20, at Meinig Park.

Without your help the kids would not have enjoyed themselves.

Gretchen Barzee
Krazy Days Coordinator
Sandy Recreation Department

Tax refund

To the Editor:

This letter explains why a round of property tax refund checks will be in the mail in October to about 500,000 citizens throughout the state.

This is a result of the changes in the state Homeowners and Renter Relief program (HARRP) by the 1977 Legislature. Sept. 1 is the important date.

HARRP currently is designed to provide property tax relief to individuals who had a total household income of \$15,000 or less for 1976. Hundreds of thousands of Oregonians have already filed for the refund.

However, for this year only, there will be two refund payments for eligible individuals. The reason is that the Legislature wanted to provide the refunds closer to property tax payment time. This is accomplished by making payments in October.

So, this year we have two payment periods. The first payment is under the old program and the second payment is under the new program. Next year there will be one payment in October.

If you already have filed a HARRP refund claim this year (for the 1976 tax year) then you do not need to file another claim for the special October payment.

However, if you have not filed any HARRP refund claim this year, your 1976 total household

income was \$15,000 or less, and you occupied an Oregon resident on Dec. 31, 1976, you should file by Sept. 1. You may be eligible for special refunds.

In addition to the HARRP refund, there are fuel and utility rate relief and weatherization refund programs available for eligible senior citizens if they receive property tax refunds from the state this year.

If you have questions about any of these programs, you may contact me but for a faster response, please contact the Oregon Department of Revenue.

The toll-free number for their information line is 1-800-452-2838.

Oregon Trail

To the Editor:

Do you know anyone who came west to Oregon over the Oregon Trail? We are trying to round up the few remaining stories of the pioneers for our "Oregon Country" newspaper column.

If you know anyone who made the Oregon trail crossing, please forward their name and address to us or call collect (503) 534-2085.

We will arrange a convenient time to talk with those persons so that their story of crossing the continent will not be lost to time and can be enjoyed by all.

Rick and Kristi Steber
Rt. 1, Box 79
Summerville, Ore. 97876

Clarification

To the Editor:

Clarification of street vacation procedure:

On June 6, at a regular meeting of the Sandy City Council, the agenda contained a request, by Mr. Griff Collins of Griff's In and Out, to discuss a possible street vacation of Pioneer Avenue between Pioneer and Proctor Avenues.

During the regular session of that council meeting it was explained that Mr. Collins had expressed his desire to PURCHASE from the city that

portion of the street adjacent to his property, for parking, for a proposed business expansion.

Under State Law, ORS 271.080, it spells out what procedure that a street vacation must follow, which includes; notification by petition to the city of the request with two thirds of the adjoining property owners giving consent with 200 feet of the parallel properties and within 400 feet of the termini of each end of the street affected.

Also, notice of the city's intent to hold a public hearing, which is required, must be published for four consecutive weeks in the local newspaper as well as being posted at the site.

Any vacation of a public area, under the statutes, is an outright granting of title by the city without compensation. The granting of title would be split equally between the adjoining property owners.

After the end of the regular meeting on June 6, the council went into executive session on other matters dealing with real estate. Upon conclusion of that executive session, the council did not reconvene, but did ask the city attorney questions concerning the street vacation procedure.

It was during this conversation, completely outside the confines of the public meeting, that Councilman Olin Bignall expressed a personal feeling to the effect that he didn't feel that the city should be giving away any property as stated in The Sandy Post news article of June 9.

This statement, unfortunately, taken by itself, did not set too well with some local citizens who misinterpreted its intent and subsequently made it very uncomfortable for Mr. Collins, which the city deeply regrets.

In a joint meeting, held between Councilman Bignall, Mr. Collins and myself, it was decided to take this method of explanation to those who may have misunderstood the intent of that statement.

If there are those who still feel the need for a greater, in-

Keeping posted

Cook to address Sandy Chamber

THURSDAY, AUG. 25
The Oregon Trail Coffee Hour will begin at 9:30 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

Chamber of Commerce at Foothills Restaurant. The public is invited to attend.

FRIDAY, AUG. 26
TIPS, an organization of Sandy businessmen, will meet at 7:15 a.m. at T.J.'s Restaurant.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 31
Sandy Area Merchants (SAM) will meet from 7-8 a.m. at T.J.'s Restaurant. Interested merchants are invited to attend.

TUESDAY, AUG. 30
Sandy City Councilman Bruce Cook will address the noon session of the Sandy Area

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The Sandy Chapter of Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) will meet at 9 a.m. in the basement of the Sandy Community Action Center.

Advisory group sought by county

The Clackamas County Commission is looking for citizens to serve on a 15 member advisory committee on community corrections.

The advisory committee will review recent legislation and develop recommendations to the commissioners as to whether or not Clackamas County should participate in a corrections program for Class C felons.

The passage of Senate Bill 354 in the recent Oregon Legislative Assembly provides state support for local

corrections programs which are designed to treat the Class C felon serving a sentence of less than five years through a community-based program.

The program is voluntary and the county has the option of not participating and paying a daily rate to the State of Oregon for sentenced Class C felons who are sent to the state corrections system.

The commissioners said that if the county chooses to participate in the community corrections program it will be necessary for the advisory committee to work with the commission and the various county departments concerned to develop a community corrections plan for the county.

Any citizen who would like to be considered for appointment to the advisory committee is asked to send a letter indicating their background, areas of interest and any other information which they feel to be pertinent to the Clackamas County Commissioners, room 201, County Courthouse, Oregon City, Ore., 97045.

The letter should be marked "Attention: Corrections Task Force."

Letters should be submitted no later than Aug. 26.

God bless

To the Editor:

I may be a bit late with this message, but I can't think of a better way to express our thoughts as we don't have the mailing addresses of all the people we wish to thank.

The family of Melvin Clifford Dowell wishes to say thanks to the many friends and neighbors who were so kind and thoughtful during the illness and death of our loved one.

Thanks to the Alpine Ambulance and Emergency crew who responded so quickly to call. A special thanks to all who sent flowers, plants and cards and to those who made gifts to the Golden Age Memorial Fund in his name.

May God bless you all.
The M.C. Dowell Family
43161 SE Pugh Rd.
Sandy, Ore. 97055

Tractor rolls

Sandy Postmaster John Metsger, 53, was slightly injured on Saturday, Aug. 20, when a tractor rolled over him at his home at 19840 SE Baty Road.

Metsger sustained possible rib injuries when the tractor rolled at approximately 2:30 p.m. He was transported to Gresham Community Hospital by Alpine Ambulance. Metsger was released from the hospital on Monday.

Kindergarten set

The Orient Drive Baptist Church Kindergarten will hold registration Aug. 30-31 for youngsters attending the afternoon and morning classes.

Registration is slated from 1-3 and 7-9 p.m. both days. Teachers are Emma Dee Castle and Carrie Plant.

For more information call 668-4569.

Seniors free

Senior citizens may attend any Sandy High School athletic event or special activity for free, says Sandy High Principal Bill MacFarlane.

To get into an event, all seniors need a special pass. Passes will be available in the school's main office, MacFarlane said.

If seniors would like to view the football games from their automobile, there is also a window sticker available indicating the driver is a senior citizen and allowing admission to the north gate of the playing field.

"We encourage all the seniors to stop by and get a pass," MacFarlane said.

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For All Your Insurance Needs

From page one

Complaint dismissed by board

cases," he said. The court then asked the ERB to go through their hearings process again before declaring if it is a permissive or mandatory item for discussion during contract talks.

Robertson said the teachers believe their proposals are designed to be "mandatory" and that the school board should bargain on those items.

SEA President Don Tucker told The Post that the teachers have not been informed of the unfair labor practices complaint.

"We still have not been informed," he said. "No notification was sent to the SEA."

Larson said he did not expect an early

hearing on the appeal of the district's complaint. The 1977 Oregon Legislature changed the state law so that the three member Employment Relations Board serves fulltime. So far, Gov. Bob Straub has made one appointment to the board.

Larson said he expects the full board to meet for the first time in September or October with a "large backlog" of cases to discuss. Larson added that he did not believe that the appeal would delay negotiations between the district and teachers.

SEA negotiator Robertson, however, earlier had called the complaint a tactic for stalling negotiations.